



MONTGOMERY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
CONSULTANTS

Box 147, 322 East 100 South, Moab, Utah 84532 (435) 259-5764 Fax (435) 259-5608

5/015/078

April 19, 1999

Tony Gallegos
Division of Oil, Gas & Mining
1594 West North Temple
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

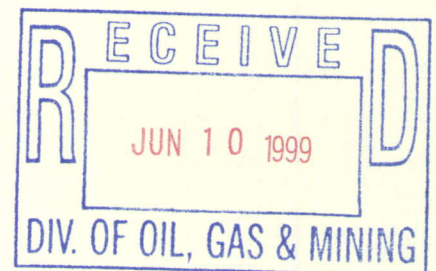
Dear Mr. Gallegos:

Enclosed please find the report entitled "Cultural Resource Inventories of the Black Knight Mine Access Road, Emery County, Utah". The inventory resulted in three isolated find of artifacts, evaluated as not eligible to the NRHP. Based on the findings, a determination of "no effect" is recommended for this project pursuant to Section 106, CFR 800.

If you have any questions or comments, please call me.

Sincerely,

Keith R. Montgomery
Principal Investigator



cc: Dan W. Guye, Blackhawk Engineering, Helper, UT
James Dykmann, Compliance Archaeologist, Utah SHPO
Blaine Miller, BLM Archaeologist, Price River R.A.
Kenny Wintch, Archaeologist, Trust Lands Administration

5/015/098

CULTURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY OF THE
BLACK KNIGHT MINE ACCESS ROAD
EMERY COUNTY, UTAH

by

Keith R. Montgomery

Prepared For:

State of Utah
School and Institutional
Trust Lands Administration
and
Bureau of Land Management
Price River Resource Area Office
Moab District

Prepared Under Contract With:

Blackhawk Engineering, Inc.
Route 1 Box 146-H5
Helper, Utah 84526

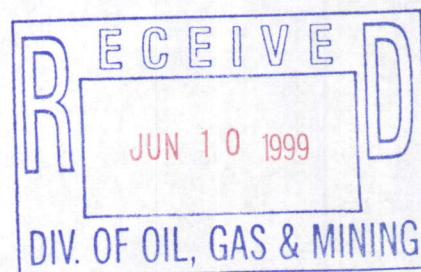
Prepared By:

Montgomery Archaeological Consultants
P.O. Box 147
Moab, Utah 84532

June 7, 1999

United States Department of Interior (FLPMA)
Permit No. 99-UT-60122

State of Utah Antiquities Project (Survey)
Permit No. U-99-MQ-0271b,s



INTRODUCTION

In June, 1999, a cultural resource inventory was conducted by Montgomery Archaeological Consultants (MOAC) for the proposed Black Knight Mine access road, in Emery County, Utah. The archaeological survey were implemented at the request of Dan W. Guy, President of Blackhawk Engineering, Inc., Helper, Utah. The project area is situated on public land administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Price River Resource Area (Moab District) and State of Utah, School and Institutional, Trust Lands Administration land.

The objectives of the inventory were to locate, document, and evaluate any cultural resources within the project area. Also, the inventory was implemented to attain compliance with a number of federal and state mandates, including the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as amended), National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the Archaeological and Historic Conservation Act of 1972, the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979, American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978, and the Utah State Antiquities Act of 1973 (amended 1990).

The fieldwork was performed by Keith R. Montgomery on June 4, 1999, under the auspices of U.S.D.I. (FLPMA) Permit No. 99-UT-60122 and State of Utah Antiquities Permit (Survey) No. U-99-MQ-0271b,s issued to Montgomery Archaeological Consultant, Moab, Utah. Prior to the survey, a file search for previous surveys and documented archaeological sites was performed by the author at the BLM Price River Resource Area Office in (April 15, 1999). This consultation indicated that north of the proposed Black Knight Mine site an inventory was completed by the University of Utah Archaeological Center for the Kaiser Steel South Lease Mine property (Rauch 1981). This investigation documented a number of prehistoric and historic sites and a test excavation at a rockshelter (42Em1343), yielding Fremont and Numic cultural remains. In 1999, Montgomery Archaeological Consultants surveyed a parcel and short access road for GoldTerra's Black Knight Mine in T17S, R14E, S.16, finding no cultural resources. No previously-documented cultural resources are situated within the immediate project areas.

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT AREA

The project Black Knight Mine access road is located about 5 miles northeast of Woodside, Utah. The legal description is Township 17 South, Range 14 East, Sections 16, 21, 28 and 33 (Figure 1). The undertaking is the improvement of an existing two-track road which begins at US-191 and traversed north-northeast for approximately 2.9 miles to the proposed Black Knight Mine site. This inventory area occurs along a southwest sloping ridge southeast of Marsh Flat Wash ranging in elevation from 4800 to 5050 feet.

In general, the project area lies within the Book Cliffs-Roan Plateau Physiographic Subdivision of the Colorado Plateau (Stokes 1986). The Book Cliffs form an almost continuous cliff face along the Tavaputs Plateau, broken by the canyon cut through the plateau by the Price River on its way to join the Green River. The Beckwith Plateau dominates the southern portion of the study area with several prominent canyons which descent from the plateau uplands to join the Green River in Gray Canyon. The geology of the project area is composed of Cretaceous period deposits which date from 144 to an estimated 78 million years ago (Ibid 1986:131). The lowlands west of the Book Cliffs consists of the Blue Gate shale member of the Mancos Shale group which are mainly marine sediments. The Cretaceous age rocks yield a notable record of both continental and marine vertebrates with fish remains represented chiefly by scales and teeth. Permanent water sources in the area consist of the Price River and Green River.

The Mancos Shale depositional environment supports a Desert Shrub Association consisting of shadscale, mat saltbrush, tamarisk, Indian ricegrass, and prickly pear cactus. Modern impacts to the landscape include livestock grazing and a two-track road. No cultural resources were identified in the project area.

SURVEY METHODOLOGY

An intensive or 100% survey coverage was conducted by the archaeologist for this project. The access road was inspected by the archaeologist walking parallel and zig-zag transects along a 150 ft wide corridor, spaced no more than 10 meters apart. A total of 52.7 acres was inspected which included 47.2 acres on public lands administered by the BLM Price River Resource Area (Moab District), and 5.5 acres on State of Utah Trust Lands Administration property.

INVENTORY RESULTS

The inventory of the proposed Black Knight Mine access road resulted in the documentation of three isolated finds of artifacts (IF-A through IF-C), see Figure 1.

Isolated Find A (IF-A) is situated in the SE/SE/NE of S. 28, T17S, R14W (UTM 556840E and 4351700N). It is a white semitranslucent secondary reduction flake.

Isolated Find B (IF-B) is situated in the SW/NW/SE of S. 21, T17S, R14W (UTM 556080E and 4352900N). It is a white semitranslucent secondary reduction flake.

Isolated Find C (IF-C) is situated in the SE/SW/SE of S. 21, T17S, R14W (UTM 556220E and 4253360N). It consists of a Hole-in-Top can measuring 3 15/16" by 4" with a 1 1/2 cap.

MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

The archaeological survey of the proposed Black Knight Mine access road resulted in the documentation of two prehistoric and one historic isolated find of artifacts. These cultural resources are assessed as not eligible for consideration of the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), due to their lack of additional research potential.

Based on the findings, a determination of "no effect" to Section 106, CFR 800 is recommended for this undertaking.

REFERENCES CITED

Montgomery, Keith R.

1999 Cultural Resource Inventories of the Black Knight and Black Butte Mine Sites, Emery County, Utah. Montgomery Archaeological Consultants, Moab, UT. Report No. 99-UT-MQ-0155, on file at the BLM Price Resource Area Office.

Rauch, Rebecca

1981 A Cultural Resource Inventory of the Kaiser Steel Corporation South Lease Mine Property and a Test Excavation (42Em1343) in Emery County, East Central Utah. University of Utah Archeological Center, Salt Lake City.

Stokes, William Lee

1986 Geology of Utah. Utah Museum of Natural History, University of Utah, Salt Lake City.

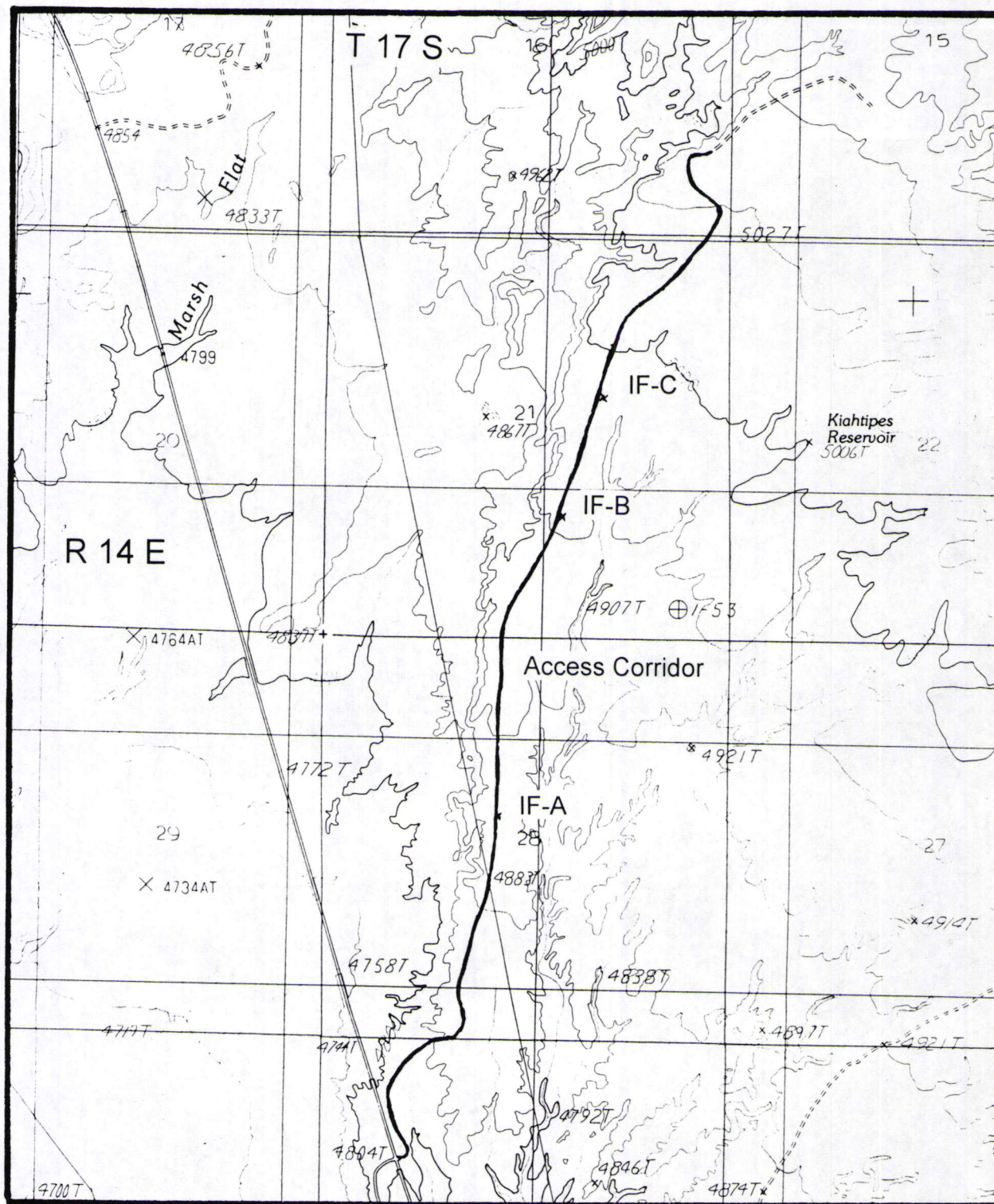


Figure 1. Inventory Area of GoldTerra's Black Knight Mine Access Road, Emery County, UT. USGS 7.5' Woodside, UT 1985. Scale 1:24000.